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THE SECRET
HISTORY
OF THE

October **CLUB:**
From its **ORIGINAL**
to this Time.

By a **MEMBER.**

The Second Edition.



L O N D O N :

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THE RECORD
HISTORY
OF THE
OCCIDENTAL CLUB
FROM ITS ORIGIN
TO THE PRESENT



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THE
Secret HISTORY
OF THE
October CLUB:

With some Friendly Characters
of the Illustrious Members of
that Honourable SOCIETY.

THO' the Original of the Name
by which these Honest Gen-
tlemen have thought fit to
distinguish themselves from
the rest of their Neighbours, might be
diverting enough ; and the World seems
very curious to enquire into the begin-
ning of a thing which they have
heard more of, and know less of, than
of most Publick things now upon the
Stage. Yet as it seems rather an Acci-
dent than an Essential to the thing it
self, we shall not amuse the World with
a particular Enquiry of that Nature,
but leave it to fall in with other things

as most necessarily it will in the Course of the Story.

We might carry back the Enquiry we are now upon to the beginning, not of the present Reign, but even to the Revolution, nay, even to the beginning of our Unhappy Divisions in this Nation into Parties; the consequence of which Enquiry, would be chiefly to shew, how in every Reign, in every Age, nay almost in every Year, New Parties have risen up among us; distinguished by New Names, tho' perhaps, easily to be resolved into the same Original Grand Division which the late King *James* left this Nation in, when former petty Divisions, being as it were stifled, some thought Buryed in the Great Revolution Strife, the Nation seem'd only divided into the Two great Parties, *these* Patrons of *Liberty*, *those* of *Slavery*.

It may be necessary for the continuing a Chain of Story, and to shew you the Connexion of things present, with things past, or Consequences with their Causes, to enter here into some little Historical Account of the Changes from that time, how they have depended upon one another, as Links in a Chain, to the present period of things; and this shall be done with Brevity and Plainness.

No

No sooner was the Blow struck in *Britain*, and King *James* being Fled, the Convention of Estates had declared the Throne Vacant, and had the placing the Prince and Princess of *Orange* in the Seat of the Government in their view; but a Third Party rose up and violently opposed it. We knew not what at first to call these People, neither did they give themselves any Name; tho' they might have been call'd *October-Men* at that time, as truly and with as just a Derivation as any now bear that Name: They were as much Enemies to the Tyranny and Dispensing Power of King *James*, as other Men: They were Zealous to prevent the Invasion of Popery: many, yea most of them, had joyn'd in the taking up Arms against their Lawful Sovereign; and in the Invitation given to a Foreign Prince to come over in a Hostile manner, and Invade their King, in order to put a stop to his Designs against the Liberty and Religion of their Country: Whether they did it from a clear view of the Supremacy of the Peoples Right to those Laws, or whether *Nature had rebelled in them against Principle*, Authors have not agreed about it, nor shall we attempt to solve that Difficulty at this time.

Be that as it will, these Gentlemen carried their opposition to the Abdication, a great length; they Voted against Declaring the Throne Vacant; they Protested against the filling up that Vacancy; they Disown'd the Entailing the Crown upon the Persons mentioned in the Act of Settlement; and many of them refused to acknowledge, or take the Oaths of Allegiance to the King and Queen. It is true, most of them in time having consider'd of the matter, and the Terms of the Oath rather requiring a Passive than an Active Allegiance, they came into the Oaths; some upon the Distinctions of a Right *De Facto* and a Right *De Jure*: Some moved by Interest and Advantage; some with Wicked Reserves of their Allegiance to King *James*; some one way, some another; and some *by far the Honester*, stood out to the last.

It would be too long to give you the Arguments here which were used on both sides, to perswade a Compliance, or to justify a Refusal. We may send the LAITY to Examine the Doctrines of Divine Right, Indefeazible Title, and the Illegality of any Human Power, Superseding the Right of the King; that he derives from, and is only accountable to God; that as by the Law, the King

can do no Wrong, so he can forfeit no Right ; *and the like* : Arguments often exploded by the practice of those that have made the loudest Profession of them ; yet that are still carryed on, and may be now call'd *October Principles*, as being again espoused by the Gentlemen, who we are coming to talk of. As to the **CLERGY**, we may refer them to the Learned Dr. *Sherlock*, who after he had by Example and Arguments, led many warm *but well meaning* Men, to espouse the same Principle, and lose their Livings for adhering to it, left them in the List of State Martyrs, but excused himself ; and professing himself a Convert to Dr. *Overall*, fac'd about, took the Oaths, and sav'd a good Living, after he had ruin'd half a Province of the Clergy.

From this Original, sprung the first unhappy Distinction among us, *since the Revolution*, known by the Name of *First Name of Distinction, Non-Jurors* ; but to our great Misfortune it did not end here ; For as we noted above, many of the complying Gentlemen retain'd their Principles, tho' they had for the Reasons abovesaid, taken the Oaths ; And in spite of the Sacred Obligation, they went on in all Companies, on all Occasions, and with unusual Openness, to appear for the Interest

rest and Party of King *James* : they Insulted, Ridicul'd, Bought, Sold and Betray'd, both the King, his Interest, his Business, and the whole Nation.

The World having in no Age been used to a People of such Amphibious Politicks as these, Men were at a loss what to call them a great while : *Non-Jurors they were not*, for no Parliament could frame Oaths of any kind, but they would take them : They submitted to Oaths of Allegiance, Recognition, Association, Abjuration, Assurance, and every thing you pleased, *Williamites* they could not be, King *William* was their Aversion, and they would Drink King *James's* Health as openly, as if they had seen him upon the Throne : From these Practices, they came to distinguish themselves as his more particular Partisans ; and there began the first Mention of the word *Jacobite*, as a Title justly given them, and which they quickly grew fond of.

The
Second
Distinction,
Jacobites

It is no part of the Design to enlarge here, either in a Description of, or a just Exclamation against the Practice of those Men. The *Non-Jurors* Contemn'd them, but held their Peace, because they found they (the *Jacobites*) did their work for them ; the rest of the World stood at Gaze at them, and look'd on them

them as Men of no Principle, neither fearing God or regarding Man.

In order to the Brevity, we profess you shall expect no farther account of the Conduct of these People during the whole Reign of King *William* ; how upon all Occasions they Plagu'd and Perplex'd him, how they Betray'd him abroad, and Embarrass'd him at home ; how they Ruffled him on the Partition Treaty, Suggested his Desire to Rule by a Standing Army, Bully'd him on his proposals of keeping his *Dutch* Guards, forc'd him to give up his best Friends to their Fury ; and at last, how they Insulted his End. Triumph'd in the manner, Drank the Beasts Health that gave him the Fall by which he came to his Death ; and have since, offer'd innumerable Injuries to his Glorious Memory : These are things we choose to omit, not caring *renovare Dolorem*, to look back upon them.

After the Decease of King *William*, Queen *Anne* succeeding, and making a Speech to Her Privy Council at Her Accession, gives the whole Nation an Assurance of Her Royal Concern for their Prosperity and Protection of their Liberty, whether Church or Dissenters, as the effects of Her just Government ; but being her self Educated in the
Church

Church of *England*, tells the Gentlemen of that Church, *That those of them who were most Zealous for the Welfare and Interest of that Church, would thereby most recommend themselves to Her ; and as the other should have Her Protection, so these would be sure of Her especial Favour ;* and more to that purpose, as may be seen in the Printed Speech more at large.

This gave such a Loose to these People, many of them being at that time Advanc'd unwarily to Places and Trusts, that they thought this word ZEAL, was an Authority to them, to run into all the mad Excesses that the mistaken Zeal of most Men, generally leads them into. This, as in all such Cases it generally has done, shew'd it self more particularly among the Clergy, and appeared especially Pointed at the Dissenters of all Sorts.

The Queen, who, *God Bless Her Majesty*, little thought, a Word so well meant, should raise such a ferment among her People ; and that when the general Quiet and Peace of all Her Subjects was Her true Design, these Gentlemen should so mistake Her, as, without Distinction, to fall together by the Ears, with all their Neighbours, whether Churchmen or Dissenters, that would

not come up to their Height ; took several steps, *tho' all in vain*, for the Cure of this Mischief : And first, Her Majesty in several Speeches on Opening the respective Sessions, of Parliament, passing Bills, Prorogations of Parliament, *and the like*, took occasion to explain Her self, to assure the Dissenters, of Her Preserving INVIOLABLY their Tolleration, pressing all Her People to Peace and Union, and shewing Her Dislike of the Extravagancies aforesaid.

Many of the Church of *England*, and indeed the best, most Judicious, Charitable, and well designing People among them, fell heartily in with these Motions, and earnestly pressed to others, as well as practiced themselves, the Peaceable Temper their Sovereign exhorted them to ; these thus manifestly distinguishing themselves from one another, introduced more New Names of Separation ; the first were from hence called *High Flyers*, the other *Moderate Men* : and when afterward these Names began to be more particularly confined to Church of *England* Men, and no other, they were Abridg'd into *High Church* and *Low Church*.

The
Third
Distinction
High Flyers,
Moderate Men.

Fourth
Distinction,
High Church,
Low Church.

The *High Church* Men, for so we are now to call them, upon this Behaviour of their Sovereign, manag'd themselves

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quite

quite another way ; for instead of Obeying the Exhortations of their Prince, they fell upon Her Majesty Her self ; Reproaching the Queen, with forsaking the Doctrine She was brought up in ; giving up the Interest of the Establish'd Religion ; abandoning the Church, *and the like* : and to such lengths they run things, that they obliged Her Majesty, in order to preserve that Peace She had so constantly exhorted Her People to, to change Hands, and *turn them all out*.

They went on however, notwithstanding these Discouragements, Insulted the Queen and the Ministry, with Libels, Memorials, and Lampoons ; and at last, brought that most Exquisite Lampoon upon themselves, (*viz.*) The Tacking the Occasional Bill.

Fifth
Distinction,
Tackers.

Here they got a Fifth Distinction, as an addition to their Titles of Honour, and were called **TACKERS**, a name which rendred them Odious, not to the Government only, but to the greatest part of the Nation ; and so low it sunk them, that in the next Election for Parliament Men, which followed the Winter after, they lost the Game, were distanc'd in all places ; and when they came up to the House, appear'd so weak, that

that they could not make any attempt in favour of their own Principles for some Years.

In this condition they remain'd above Four Years ; and the Nation began to enjoy the Pleasures, as well as the Advantages of Peace at Home : This Interval produc'd wonderful Events, a continued Series of Victory and Success Abroad ; an exalted Credit at Home, to such a Degree, as might well amount to a Prodigy, and be counted Miraculous ; and above all, the mighty Transaction of the Union with *Scotland* ; a thing, which when Future Ages shall enquire into, when the many Attempts that have been formerly made to bring such a thing on, shall be remembred ; and how all the Wit and Strength of the Nation could never compass it before ; will be reckoned among the greatest Transactions of the World.

In this State we continued, till the Party weary of their outed-Circumstances, finding their Interest become weaker and weaker, and seeing no hopes of raising their Fortunes again, or bringing themselves into Play by their own strength, they fac'd about, play'd a very Subtle and Unhappy Game, and out with too much Success ; the rela-

tion of which Story, if there was nothing else in it, might very well entitle this Tract to the Face it bears, (*viz.*) of a *Secret History*.

The Whigs were now uppermost, and managed with a great deal of Glory and Success, as is Noted ; — But *Humanum est Errare*. The Whigs that were out of place, in Obedience to the Curse of Mans Nature, could no more see their own Cause carryed on without having a hand in the Profit, as well as honour of the Management, than they could submit to the Administration of their Enemies. This Created Two Evils.

1. It divided the Whigs into two Factions, which we shall here tell you might more properly have been confin'd to this Distinction, *Whigs out of Place*, and *Whigs in Place* ; but to give it you in the Popular Terms as both sides were fond of having it be, and as it was receiv'd in common, they were distinguish'd into *Old Whig*, and *Modern Whig*.

Sixth
Distinction,
Old Whig,
Modern Whig.

To explain this Unhappy Distinction, it may be necessary to note to you, that the *Modern Whig* was understood to be the Ministry and all their Dependants ; together with all those, who by the Proceedings of

of the Government since the last Change at Court, were *come over* to act upon the Principles of Liberty and the Revolution; whether from Conviction of their own Reason, or from Knowledge of their true Interest, it matters not.

By *Old Whig* was understood, no more than the word exprest, (*viz.*) those who had ever been low *Whigs* from their Original, or at least from their antient Practice, as far back as the Reign before.

2. The other Evil which follow'd this New Change, was, that the *Old Whig*, and the turn'd out *Tory* Party, from Principles however remote, fell in together, and joyn'd their Forces against the *Modern Whigs*, or *Whigs* in Place, *Anglice*, the Ministry.

This unhappy League, as it had no view to the real Conjunction of their Interest, any more than it had of their Principles; so it appear'd to be altogether Political, either side making use of the other as Tools, the better to compass the ruin of the Party they oppos'd, with Resolutions to be equally false to one another, when their own end should be brought to pass.

From this way of coming together,
as

as no good could be expected on either side, so indeed, none followed to either side : The Mischiefs which have happen'd since, have all had their Rise and Spring from this corrupted Fountain. And as to make this plain, will naturally explain to the Reader the whole *Phenomena* of the Court Revolutions which have happen'd among us since that time ; and lead us down directly to the very Birth and Original of the People now in our view ; it cannot be unpleasant to the Reader, to dwell a little with what brevity we can on this particular, which hitherto the World has been so little acquainted with.

You are now to understand the Ministry, and its Dependants, as before, under the Title and Distinction of *Modern Whig*, carrying on the whole business of the Nation, and as has been noted, equally Envyed, and equally Push'd at, by the *Old Whigs*, or *Whigs* out of Place, as by the Dispossess'd *High Flyers*, *Jacobites*, or *Non-Jurors*.

It might be ask'd, whether made the first Motion towards any Union between these Two ? And that Enquiry might be answer'd thus ; that being mutually Male-content for the same Reasons, and at the same Persons, the
nature

nature of the thing, without the help of the Devil, *tho' we shall not injure Satan so much, as to exclude him wholly from his just share in the work*, seem'd naturally to bring them together.

They not only continually in all Company, and on all Occasions, exclaim'd against, and ridiculed the Publick Administration, the Ministry, and the Queen her self ; but they made the same things the reasons of their Complaint, tho' perfect *Antipodes* in the Design and End.

It is true, they might be said to aim at the same end in one sense, (*viz.*) Displacing and Turning out the Ministry ; but it is evident, their remotest aim was, getting themselves in ; with an unshaken Resolution of excluding the other Party who they joyn'd with, as will be unanswerably proved by the sequel of the Story.

In the Prosecution of this Design, we found my Lord *H*—— whom we shall for that reason begin with (*an Old Whig*) making Annual Speeches, and by Printing those Speeches, making the Clamour against the Ministry become Popular ; spreading the reasons of their Disgusts into the Mouths of the Vulgar ; the *High Flyers* universally chim'd in with the Noble Mutineer, and he always
Voted

Voted with them in things, which at another time, his common Principles would not have left us room to expect from him ; as particularly, against the Union, and for Dr. *Sacheverell* ; *Sed de mortuis nil nisi bonum* ; let his mistakes sleep in his Grave : His being Dead, forbids us to examine the latter part of his Life, so fruitful of Demonstrations to this Argument.

The matter began to grow to a height towards the end of the Parliament, 1707, and had its Meridian Altitude at the Election of the next ; and it was something diverting, as far as Men may make merry with their own Disasters, to hear the *Old Whigs* exclaiming against the Means used to keep out the Pretender ; and the *Jacobites* reflecting upon our being in an ill posture to oppose him.

Scotland was the Scene where this Tragi-Comedy was Acted ; the Division there, was the same, but under different Names, and a Distinction not much heard of in *England*, and therefore needful also to be explain'd, that things may be made clear as we go. The Names of Distinction there, were *Court* and *Squadroni* ; the thing meant the same, they were both *Whigs*, one side as much Modern and as much Original as the

the other : but as their Breach began upon other Occasions, so they appear'd divided to our hands ; yet as to the business of the day, they fell in, whole and unbroken, with the general Division ; the *Court* in *Scotland* with the Ministry, or Modern Whig in *England* ; and the *Squadroni* in *Scotland*, with the Old Whigs in *England*, or Whigs out of place.

The Invasion had been attempted in *Scotland*, and was blown over, and the Election of the Parliament approach'd : The Heads of the Parties had met, and concerted Measures in *London* : The *Squadroni* falling in with the *Juncto*, (as the Heads of the Old Whigs were called here) told them, that they had the Governing Interest in *Scotland* ; that they had been drawn in by fine Words and large Promises, to Joyn, or at least acquiesce in the Union ; that without them it could never have been effected : and that now it was made, and over, Scoundrels gain'd both the Honour of it, and were rewarded for what they had little or no hand in : That they (the *Squadroni*) were universally neglected, the Publick Affairs of their Country entrusted all with Worthless and Upstart Tools of the Court, Men of no
D Influence

Influence in, or at all beloved by the Country : and they who had the leading Interest in their Country, as well as the governing Estates, and who had more than once serv'd the Crown in the most weighty Concern, where that Interest was to be try'd, were lay'd by, as either suspected or slighted : that now they, the *Juncto*, should see, that they *the Squadroni*, would give a turn to the whole face of Affairs on that side, and that they would return the whole Five and Forty Commons, and Sixteen Peers, of their own Party.

These being proposed as strict Allies with the Old Whig Party in *England*, prompted some to go a greater length, and perhaps, discover themselves farther than Men of their Parts and Penetration could have been prevailed upon to do. And being fully confident of Success, they fear'd not on both hands to receive the *Jacobite* Malecontent and Tory, as Auxiliaries, to assist in over Ballancing the Court ; just as the King of *Sweden* does now with the *Turks*, upon a Resolution to dismiss them when the Game was play'd.

The Clamours now rise high, and the Party Storms blew hard at my Lord *Tr — r*, at the Duke of *M — b*, and

at the Administration in general. Complaining how they Engrossed the whole Management of Affairs, Invested the Queen, and made Her Majesty Inaccessible, except through their Means ; made themselves the Eyes, Ears, and Mouth, by which She saw, heard, or spoke ; and in short, had the whole disposal of things in their hands : how they boasted of having Command of the National Credit, and by the Immense Sums they had amassed of their own, which they thrust all into the Government, they possess'd the Funds, and aw'd the whole Nation. How they ingrossed vast Profits by Places, Preferments, and Innumerable Sallaries, (Lists of which they Printed) and by taking Bribes for the Disposal of others, by which the Nation seem'd the Property of a Family ; and they were in a fair way to be too Great for the whole Kingdom, if ever an opportunity offer'd, which might bear a proportion to the Greatness of their Ambition.

These were the common places of the times : Freight'd with this Cargo of Complaints, the *Squadroni* went into *Scotland*, and the *Old Whigs* here separated themselves to propagate their Interest in the approaching Elections.

Nay, to such a height things came,

that some Persons of Quality here, finding the Northern Detachment began to meet with Difficulties more than they expected, sent them down a Letter, bidding them not be bullyed by the pretences of Court Interest, and great Names; for the Q—— Her self could not support **THAT FACTION** long. Whether the Persons who wrote it directed them to expose that Letter, or they used them so ill as to do it without leave, History has not made mention; but it was made Publick in *Scotland*, and Copies handed about to all that had a mind to see it.

The Election came on, the Tories were not Idle; they Voted in all places for the Old *Whigs*, and the Old *Whigs* for them; but the Battle went against them on every side: The *Squadroni* where distanc'd every where; tho' they left no stone unturn'd, yet of the Forty Five they could return but Eleven; and of the Sixteen, but Five; and of those Eleven, Five were *Jacobites*, and Two of the other Five. Most despicably low did the poor *Squadroni* stoop to have carryed their point in this Election. Proud *Ormistonio* stoops to the Footstool of his Highness the Duke of *Palaccio*, to get himself Voted in; performing the most dishonourable

able Condition, of giving his Vote against his Principles, and against his Friends, for Count *Cornwa*, as the Equivalent. We might give you many such Instances out of the Histories of those times, but this may suffice to prove the Fact.

Being thus disappointed and doubly beaten at their own Weapon, they came up to *England*, where their Allies had not had the Success they expected, tho' much better than they. These made it up a little, by making loud Clamours at the Injustice and Partiality of the other Party, boasting that they would unravel it all again in the Houses: That in the Commons, they had Nineteen Petitions to bring in, and that in the Lords, they had such unanswerable Arguments to bring, that they would turn out the whole number at once.

This Buoyed them up some time; their Friends, the *Juncto*, waited a while to see if they could make it good; for give the *Juncto* their due, they stood by them as long as they could, consistent with their Grand Design, (*viz.*) their Interest.

But when the matter came to the Parliament, the *Squadroni* moved the Pity almost of their very Enemies.

When

When they came into the House they had nothing to say, nor any body to second them ; nay, as some say, the *Whigs* began to edge from them, and no body cared to sit close to them, till at last they were forced to sit on the other side in the Tory Corner ; a place, the Scituation of which, most People who were acquainted with the Geography of the House at that time, understood well enough.

The effect of all their Boasts ended in this ; that in the Upper House they obtained the M. of *L* ——— to be put out, and the M. of *A* ——— to be brought in, but not this either, till the last had made a separate Peace with the other Party, and had made his Submission in form to the great Tefftedar of the Nation the Evening before.

In the Lower House, they throng'd in their Petitions as they promised, but came so late, or manag'd so ill, that not one of them could be mark'd for a hearing that Session, and consequently not that Parliament.

Don *Ormistonio* made many a soft Speech, full of nothing, according to his excellent Talent ; and the Palatine of *Ferismallia*, in the other extream, spoke in his natural thunder ; but neither the unpolite sense of the last, or the polite

polite emptyness of the first, avail'd at all.

This History hitherto may pass for a Comedy well enough ; but the Tragical part is yet to come ; and indeed it has been fruitful of fatal Events to this Nation, as will yet appear in the whole course of this relation.

First, you are to observe, that what ever other Event this Management had, it brought into Play, and into the House, a set of *High Flyers* or *Jacobites* ; who from this time, so riveted their Interest both there and here, that tho' the *Whigs* brought them in, those *Whigs* could never get them out again ; but they (the *Jacobites*) so fixt their Alliances with the High Party here, that they have not only stood their ground against their Patrons, the *Squadroni* ; but have Overthrown Court *Whigs*, *Squadroni Whigs*, and all together ; making good the Text, that a House, or Party, divided against it self cannot stand.

But the Old *Whigs* on this side play'd a wiser Game ; for finding which way things went, that their left Wing (the *Squadroni*) was defeated, and if they (the *Junto*) fought it out, they should be the more fatally overthrown, they wailed, went over to the Enemy. The Tefstedar of the Nation open'd a back door

door and took them all in, and they shutting the door behind them, shut all their Friends out.

Thus the War ended between Old Whig and Modern ; and it was strange to think, how in a few Months, we heard no more of the Distinction.

This was a Tragedy indeed to the rest of the Party, and many honest Gentlemen who had sided with them upon the first prospect of Success, was left to be ruin'd by the fury of the Modern or Court Whigs, whom they had justly incensed in so open an attempt to destroy them. But the mischiefs of this Division did not end here ; indeed this was rather the beginning of the Scene ; many Ages to come, may not *for ought we know*, see the end of it.

The Ungenerous and Impolitic Conduct of the *Juncto* in this Case to their Friends, was remarkably Scandalous ; for they hardly ever concern'd themselves so much as to enquire how they resented it. Their business was, to secure to themselves that which, as was before noted, caused the first Discontent among them, (*viz.*) a share in the Management ; and this being obtain'd, they made no more stir, provided for not one of their Friends that had espoused them, and hardly protected them from the

the Consequences of their former appearing in it as above.

The universal regret at this treatment, laid the foundation of several Speculations among Mankind.

1. Their Friends saw that these were not Men to be trusted ; that having thus used Men that had so faithfully serv'd them, there was nothing to be expected from them ; accordingly these began every day more and more to fall off from them, as Men not worth serving, till at last they left them naked of a Party, by which they became an easy Prey to their Enemies, the High Flyers, who they themselves had unwarily brought into Play as above.

2. The Treachery of it brought a Scandal, not upon themselves only, but upon the whole Body of the Whigs in General, tho' the *Squadroni* have since wip'd off the Soil of it from themselves, by a steady Adherence to their former Principles, and an unanimous Conjunction in the last Election against their Enemies, the *Jacobites* ; *but it was too late.*

3. The resentment at the Usage they met with in this Case, carry'd many off
E
from

from the general Interest of the Whigs, and so strengthened the hands of the High Flying Party, that in the great Tryal of Skill about *Sacheverell*, that Case was lost by the Desertion of those who had been used ill in this very affair; such as the D — kes of H — and of D — The M — quis's of L — and A — The E — ls of W — R — M — and many others.

Thus the whole overthrow of the Whig Interest, was owing to the Self-Interested Management of the Whigs themselves; and the letting in a Flood of *High Flyers* and *Jacobites*, became necessary to dismount those who were got in: even contrary to the true Design and the first Scheme of the alteration, which was only to have deposed the Exorbitance of a few Men, but to have continued the management of Affairs in the Hands of the Disinterested Honestest Men of both sides, without respect to *Whig* or *Tory*; and so all things had stood as they did before, and the Change had been no other but what the *Whigs* themselves had declared necessary, by the attempt they made as above, to do the very same thing.

This

This is farther apparent, by the frequent Applications made by the first Movers in this new Turn, to accommodate Matters, and settle the Administration with as few Changes as possible ; in which it was apparent, not so many Alterations were design'd, as they themselves had proposed to make before ; but they were Inflexible upon the Presumptions, that the Change could not be carryed on, but would run the Contrivers upon inextricable Labyrinths, Difficulties, and Distresses ; and that the Queen would be driven back upon them again, by the Nature and Consequence of the thing. In which it is evident they have taken their Measures wrong also, and been disappointed as much as before.

However, had they been wise enough to have harbour'd themselves in a timely manner before the Storm blew, they had saved the Nation, as well as themselves ; an unhappy Proof, that the former has not been always the main view even of any Party, but that either have in their turn, thought fit to make some Sacrifices as they have thought their Interest has required.

From hence it is apparent, and it is one reason why we have been so plain and particular in this account, that the present change, being *as it is for a while*, Tory and High Flying, is not owing at all to the first Design, which was quite otherwise, but to the necessity which the untreatable Temper of some Men drove the new Gentlemen to, who were compell'd to take in one side, since the other had refused ; and to act in concert with them, till the other shall come to themselves, that they might not expose the New Ministry in the Youth of its Administration, to be crush'd between Two Parties while it appear'd to joyn with neither.

If this looks a little like what a bitter Writer, *the Review*, calls making Tools of some Men, it is only of such who want temper to act from proper Measures, for the establishing their Country ; and who being brought into Business, to act in the Sphere of Wise Men, cannot distinguish themselves from what they were in their own Country, with the Vicar, and among the unhappy Drinkers of *October*.

It's plain, the new Schemes are built (however acted) on a right Principle, so

so far as it may be made practicable in this unhappy Nation, (*viz.*) *That Government should be of no Party.* We shall not enquire into the private temper of the Persons brought in, but so far as they act upon the foundation above, so far they act right. If for the present they are driven to the necessity of sheltering under one Party more than another, the Power of Parties been unhappily grown too great to be at first wholly neglected, it is either with a design wholly to throw them off at last, as a Man leaves off his Cloaths by degrees as the Summer advances, and the heat of the Season brings him out of danger of taking cold : OR, which we speak with concern, those who have so boldly pusht at this change, and hitherto have taken their aims so right, must faint in the carrying it on, and the whole must miscarry.

Having thus brought you down by many, and perhaps some of them, untrodden paths of the several Parties who have been accessary to the present Revolution of Affairs, it is necessary to enter a little into the other side of the story, and examine the conduct of the

High

High Flyers, so far as it may concern the affair in hand.

The Divisions and Animosities among the Whigs, having weaken'd their Interest, lessened their Number, disjointed and enervated their strength, and left them in no condition to defend themselves, the Attack is made, and they are overthrow'n as you have heard.

And now we have a new War beginning among us : For the Tory Party, who as we noted, were taken in as Auxiliaries, for the securing this work, and striking this blow home ; they find that the view they had in the proceedings, is not likely to be attain'd, and now they set up for Male contents. They see the Government begins to settle, that the grand Point is gain'd, and that the Plunder, the Blood, the Persecution, the Impeaching, and the Ruin of Families, Churches, &c. which they hoped for, and promised themselves the pleasure of, is not in the Project. And they turn Chagrin, Uneasy, and Discontent.

It was sometime that *Picolomin*, a Northern Hero of Gothic Original, had waited

waited in Town, big with expectation ; that according to assurances given him, as soon as the Parliament came together, the Commons would not fail to vote in the Pretender ; and that the Queen coming to the House of Peers, should declare, she could no longer in Conscience detain the Rightful Dominions of Her Brother, but that She had resolved to demit in his Favour. That at the same time, his Young Majesty should appear under the Protection of the Life Guard, and should forthwith be Proclaim'd by both Houses.

But finding things go quite contrary to his expectation, and that even his dear friends, on whom before their Election he depended much for the certainty of this, were with the first, in Voting an Address to stand by the Queen, against all Her Opposers, and for carrying on the War, &c. Finding the Pulse of the Court run high, as ever, against *France*, and no visible appearance in Her Majesty, of an Inclination to Abdicate the Throne, he has walk'd about like a Ghost for some Weeks ; he is observ'd as he goes, to mutter Old *Greek* Verses, and has sometimes

times been over-heard in broken Sounds, to bring out *Acheronta Movebo* ; he seldom stirs from the HOUSE, but walks much by Moon-light, talks to the Stars, calls frequently upon the Devil, and beats the Heels of his Shoes off against the ground : If he goes to the Coffee-House, they hide the Votes and Minutes from him immediately ; for he never reads them, but he fastens his Teeth upon them, and gnaws them in pieces with the oddest Convulsions and Distortions in his face imaginable.

He happen'd some time since to be walking, whether to or from the House, the Learned are not agreed about it ; but he meets not far from the place call'd HELL, an Old Friend of his of Saxon Race, Cousin *German*, about a thousand times remov'd from King *Edgar*, and still bearing his Coat of Arms. They embrace with a great deal of warmth, but with something more solemn than in usual Salutations ; there sat upon both their faces, something of Fury and inexpressible Perturbation ; and tho' they were hearty in their Carresses to one another, yet to a critical Observer, it look'd a little like the Salutation

lutation of Two Friends that happen after long absence to meet together at the Gallows.

After mutual Embraces, a By-Stander would have expected they should have spoke, but broken words interrupted with the strong firmentation of their Spirits, stifled one another ; and they stood grining and making signs to one another like Two Mutes. At last, Dam 'em says *Pico* ; Confound them says *Edgar* ; ——— Shall we ——— says *Pico* ? No says *Edgar* ; Plague says *Edgar* ; Devil, says *Pico* ; and thus Rage and Curses took up the Conversation for some time ; and unable to speak out, they Hesitate a while, when recovering a little *they go on*. Will you meet us says *Edgar* ? Where says *Pico* ? At the Bell says *Edgar* ? How strong are you says *Pico* ? Twenty, and Increasing says *Edgar*. Have you any Members yet says *Pico* ? Pox ! Devil ! says *Edgar*, and shakes his head ; we shall — what's the word says *Pico* ? OCTOBER says *Edgar*, and so they part.

SEE HOW GREAT A MATTER A
LITTLE FIRE KINDLETH.

F

From

From this small Original, is produc'd so Noble, so Honourable a Society as the *October* Club; they began at Hell, were *at first* compos'd of Rage, Fury, and Bitterness; but gradually proceeding by Noble and Mutual Improvements, *they are come now* to be the Humblest, Tamest, and most Harmless Society in the World.

At this happy Period I shall conclude the first part of this Story, as being an Interval proper enough to stop at, while some little Digressions may gradually introduce Great and Momentous Affairs, upon which this Assembly have employed themselves.

PART II.

IT may seem reasonable to expect, upon so extraordinary a figure as these two forementioned Gentlemen made at their first Salutation, that their farther Conferences, would in some measure partake of the temper they appear'd then to be in. And we shall not be deceived in the Consequences, as will appear in the sequel of the Story ; wherein the several Fermentations, Excesses, Extravagancies, and Distractions, which appear'd in Miniature in these first Embraces, of our two aforesaid Members, will come to be seen in full Perspective ; and the Nature, Foundation, Progress, and perhaps something of the fate of this Glorious Society, be set in a clear view to the World.

Here we shall see at large their Principles, their Pretensions, the Grounds and Reasons of their Discontents and

Exclamations ; the Methods of their expressing their Resentment ; of their proposed Remedy, the Schemes of their Wise Politicks, their Expectations from, and Disappointments in the new Revolution of Affairs.

Nor may it be unprofitable in the process of these Sheets, to enter a little into *the Philosophy of this Society*, and shew how, sometimes, by *venting* and giving a *loose* to the Rage and Passions that oppress Mens Souls, they arrive at a more happy power of Government of themselves *than they had before* : It is not unusual, as by the Experience of many Learned Physicians has been proved in the Cure of Lunaticks, that some kinds of Frenzy can only be cur'd by raising the Madness up to an height beyond all possible restraint ; and then putting the Patient into a proper place where he can hurt no Body, nor himself, provoke him to rave at an excessive rate ; and it is very usual, when that fit is over, *the Person is reduc'd*, recovers, and will seem perfectly well again for a considerable time.

This has been tryed most experimentally

tally upon our Two Members above. Members ! said Sir *John Cautious*, who stood by while this Story was a Copying for the Press ; *what do you mean ?* Upon my word, if you come to Reflections upon the Members of Parliament, I will not keep you Company ; I am a Member of P — nt my self, and I know better than any of you, the Temper of the House ; they are all very honest Gentlemen, and I will no more hear any thing reflecting on them *without doors*, than I will betray what is done *within doors* ; much less, be necessary to the publishing any thing of that kind.

As this Gentlemans Rage was something surprizing, so the mistake was so obvious, that the whole Company fell a laughing at him ; but knowing him to be of a temper something Revengeful, they thought it was not Prudence to provoke him, so they told him they wondred he should take the word MEMBER in so restrain'd a Sense ; that it did not at all follow, they must mean Members of Parliament every time they named that word ; nor was it so in fact : that every body knew there
were

were several Clubs in the Nation, and made up of several sorts of People; such as the Calves-Head Club, the Jacobite Club, the Scandalous Club, the Witty Club, the Merry Club, the Ugly Club, and the *October Club, cum multis aliis*, &c. and that it could not be taken in that sence now, because it was well known there was no such thing as Members of P ——— nt among any of these.

These Arguments were so cogent, as pacified Sir *John*, and so we were suffer'd to proceed with our Two MEMBERS as aforesaid, who as is already observed, were so full, so warm, so eager, that when they met, they could do nothing but *rave*, bring out broken Curfes, and shew all the signs of exasperated Spirits, that the fury of their Temper could bring forth.

It may be necessary for the farther illustration of this History, to let you a little into the general conversation of the Society, and give some account of particular Passages occurring at some extraordinary meetings, and then we may touch at the Characters of some of their Persons.

You

You have heard from the abrupt meeting of *Pico*, and the Old *Saxon* Count, *Edgar*, that they were Discontent, Shagrin, and Enrag'd ; and that they met at a certain House, to vent and give ease to their Passions. It was not long in a time of such eminent Jealousies, but that a constant meeting of Gentlemen of such good Figure and appearing Interest, must occasion divers Speculations ; and the Town began to enquire who they were, what their Business was, and on what Design ; but particularly, as most natural to the temper of the time, *what Party they were of*. The word *October* being left always at the Bar, as the token of Admittance, was consequently the first thing belonging to them that became Publick : Which led the World into a small Error about them. The Occasion was this.

The Observator's Country-man, having some Years ago worn that word thread-bare, in his very empty Witticisms upon Friend or Enemy, it was *from thence* at first by way of Scandal given out, that this was a Whig Club. This indeed serv'd to let Wiser Men know, that all the Tories were not of a Piece ; and that

that there were some in the World, who tho' they were far enough from Whigs, were not let into this Secret ; that they knew nothing of the Design, and by consequence, had not Access to the Cabinet Councils of their own Party.

For as these Gentlemen had no Designs but what they had openly enough proclaim'd to the World, so it was far from being design'd to make their having Associated together a Secret, or at least for any long time.

It is true, in the Infancy of the Society, they met frequently at several Houses ; sometimes at the ——— in the *Strand* ; sometimes at the *V——* sometimes at the *D——l*, sometimes at one place, sometimes at another ; and afterwards, separating into small Committees, they had their private and preparatory Meetings, in order both to encrease the number of the Society, and prepare business for the general days of their Assembling, that it might meet there with the greater Dispatch. At these separate Meetings, they frequently drank the *Plebeian* Juice of the Barly Corn, prepar'd

prepar'd at proper Seasons in the latter end of the Summer, and carefully preserved for maturing it self by fermentation, Setling, Fining, Sparkling, &c. And from hence some have imagined, they received their *Nomme de Guerre*, (*viz.*) OCTOBER; But Authors of more Authority affirm the contrary; and that the original of this Honourable Title, was derived from that word being given by some of their leading Men, as the signal of their congregating together, and the term of Admission, of which more by and by.

Be this as it will, having thus brought them to their Collective State, it follows to enquire who they were that composed this Body; who the constituent Members, and what the Occasion of the meeting: We shall begin with the last; and perhaps, the Persons may best describe themselves by their behaviour, when we come to the subject matter of their wise Conferences.

We need not trouble the Reader with Negatives in this Affair, as that they were *not* Whigs, *not* Papists, *not* Presbyterians, *not* Non-Jurors, that met at this Assembly; that their profest Business was neither Wine, Love, Game,

Musick or Mirth. But to come directly to the Point : they met to consult on matters of State, Government, Politics, Credit, War, Peace, Funds, Favourites, Parties, *a little* of Religion, *much* of Court Matters, more of Ministry, and most of all, of Interest : in short, they met to consider in full Assembly, the State of the Nation.

It has been reported, that they took great pains to bring in among them, abundance of Parliament Men, but that not being able to bring that to pass in such a degree as they desired, they made themselves amends out of the Court ; and that the Queen had the misfortune to find many of Her Majesties own Servants, who eat Her Bread, and depended on Her Royal Bounty, made Members of this black Divan ; and in close Consultation against both Her Person and Interest. The brief History of which, take as follows.

It has been noted in the first part of this Tract, that upon the late Revolution of Court Affairs, the Pulse of a certain Party run high, having given the Whigs a general overthrow, as in a pitch'd Battle, deposed the Ministry, disbande

disbanded the *Junco*, and gotten the Mob on their side, they thought the Game all their own ; nor were they in the least mistaken, for so it was.

But they had no sooner look'd over their hands, *as they say at Cards*, and found they had all the Trumps, Court Cards, and almost every thing they could wish, but elated with their good fortune, they began to throw their Cards away like Mad Men ; and according to their ancient wild Practise, to ruin their own game.

But some better Gamesters among them of their own side, seeing their Follies, clapt in, snatch'd the Cards out of their hands, and undertook to play the Game for them.

Ill luck was it for the Whigs, that these mad Gamesters were not permitted to go on, for they would have play'd away all their good Cards at first, and the cunning Whigs who play'd upon the reserve, and had husbanded their Game, would have come in at last, and have beat them all.

But wiser Gamesters taking up the Cards, they hold the advantage they had

had gain'd, and the Whigs are in danger of being lurch'd.

But to leave Allegorizing, the Case is literal enough, and may be told as plain as we please. The Queen having thought fit to change Hands in the Administration of Publick Affairs, and to put the Ministry into the hands of a New Set of Men : Of which New Ministry, it is not the Business of this Paper to say any thing one way or another. This was the consequence.

The deposed Party struggled hard, and gave up their ground by Inches; defending every Step, every Point, disputing every Post, and maintaining their Interest as long as possible.

The Party that Supplanted them, were not so much of the Old High Flying Principle, as they were upon a New System of Politicks, (*viz.*) of putting the Administration upon what they called an equal foot ; that no Party should engross either the Queen or Government ; that the Favours, and Employments, and Trust, should be promiscuously granted and bestow'd upon all Parties ; and the best of all
Par-

Parties be employ'd while the Government it self should be of no Party at all. This was called the new Scheme, and according to this Scheme, the new management began to work.

It happened rather as a consequence of things, than by choice of the new Management, that they were obliged to take in the assistance of all the High Party, to make good their ground against the Old Ministry, and their Friends, who as I said *dyled hard*, made an obstinate Defence, and would hearken to no terms of accommodation; never yielding to take Quarter, tho' frequently offered them upon very Advantageous Conditions.

The New Managers being thus driven to the necessity of calling in help to make good their ground, were obliged to treat with the other Party, viz. the hot High Flying hair Brain'd Tories, whom they thought in this Exigency, they might purely on the Principles of Hatred to the Whigs, bring in at demand.

To wheedle them into this, *for they knew they were easily to be caught*, they
baited

baited their Hook with a roasted Priest, set him to cry Fire, and raise the whole Nation into a Flame ; immediately the bubbled Party bit at the Bait, and away they run with it, without so much as feeling that the Hook hung in their Mouths.

The cunning Anglers play'd with them, as you do with a Trout ; let them run on, let them raise Mobs, Tumults, break Windows, pull down Meeting-Houses, bully the Dissenters, rabble Elections, huzza the Tool aforesaid round the Country ; and in short, put the whole Nation into a Flame.

Sometimes they would draw their line a little, and bring them nearer hand, and almost to their Net, putting several Mortifications upon them, with fine Speeches, Addresses to STAND-BY, &c. Tryals of Rioters, Promises to keep the Peace, hints of Temper to fellow Christians and fellow Subjects, (*Dissenters*) Discouraging and Neglecting the Priest and his Friends, and the like. These things went against the Grain, and touching them to the quick, away the Party would fling
again.

again, and flounce, and be in a rage, like a Lunatick. *Well*, then the State Anglers would try to tickle them *still as you do a Trout* ; give them a Sugar-plumb word or two, in an Address put in Faction, as an Equivalent to Popery, Exemption for an Equivalent to Tolleration, *and the like*.

This pleases them again, and they come to hand for a purpose, but it lasts but for a while ; when feeling the Hook prick them a little, and the very thought of Moderation putting them into a fright, they take a run again, and away they go, carrying all before them ; the cunning Workmen *let them go*, run out the line. Let them over-run the Presbyterian Judicatures, reverse Decrees, and let loose Bears upon the honest *Scots* Sheep ; and in short, let them play the Devil till they run themselves out of breath again.

After this, they begin to draw them to hand again : And with many a luscious promise, they brought these furious People to be something tame, to come into Management, and to be true Auxiliaries. Many a Sugar-plumb, as before, was they fain to give them ; many an Opiate to doze and delude them ;
they

they learn'd the Language of the Party, and cry'd, *Hereditary-Right, Passive-Submission, and Non-Resistance*, as fast as any of them : In Exchange for this, they the Managers, got their Auxillaries to baul out *Protestant Succession, House of Hannover*, and the like ; tho' it is true, they never lik'd the sound, and brought it out damnable rough. Thus our New Managers went on with them, and while they wanted the Assistance of their Croud and Clamours, they chim'd to one another. These cry'd, *down with the Phanaticks* ; those answer'd, *for they would pull down the Queen* ; these cry, *Damn the Presbyterians* ; those Eccho, *for they will bring in the Pretender*, tho' they knew they talk'd Nonsense all the while ; and thus both sides speaking what neither of them design'd ; they nevertheless, run with a joynt Current, and open Mouths upon the Whigs, till at last they effectually Overthrew and Dispossessed them.

Now as they had various Designs and differing views in this, tho' both agreed in the Means, (*viz.*) *Pulling down the Whigs* as a Part, yet they could never go far together, because their End was not the same.

The Managers had their end as before (*viz.*) to Establish themselves, to put the Administration upon a New Foot as to Persons, to secure their Interest, and have the Weight of Affairs run in the Channel aforesaid

But our Auxillaries aim'd higher, Persecution in Religion, Tyranny in Government, the Ruine not of the Whiggs as a Party, but of the Whiggs of that Party in Person; Plunder, Rapin, Devastation, Impeachments, Penal-Laws, Fines, Forfeitures, and the true Extremes of High-Church Fury, these were their Views; to this purpose no more War Abroad *was the Word*, Peace was to be made with *France*, whose assistance it was very probable they might stand in need of; and the Rein of Tyranny being put into their hands, they were to Drive over all, according to the Principles of their Party.

The Wiser Managers, tho' they had no Views of this kind, yet loth to lose the Assistance and Votes of those Clamouring People, Sooth'd them as long as possible; and having led them sometimes by the Hand, and sometimes by the Nose, one step after another, now in Hopes of obtaining their Desire, then Doubting again, then reviving their hopes, till they have gotten them

a great length in the assistance they at first entertain'd them for, begin now to stand in less need of them than they did before.

The Case seems clear enough, the Managers who made meer Tools of those People, had no more mind to set them up with all their mad Principles in the Administration, than they had to continue the Whigs in the Ministry; nor had they any real View of Destroying the Whigs as a party; but having a necessity to put a High-flying Face upon their first Management, to Ballance the Whigs, who were as mad as other Men in their Turn, and who had gotten the Power in their hands; as they by Degrees got that Power out of the hands of the Whigs, by proportion'd Degrees they Checkt and Restrain'd the Fury of that Party.

The Managers in this acted very dexterously, and held the Party so in play that they never could see what Tools they were made of, or how they were fiddl'd in, to Dance in a Circle, out of which they were never likely to move till they return'd back to their Primitive *Turn'd-out* Circumstances, which they were sure to do as soon as ever they should Dislike their present Employment, or push at any thing

thing agreeable to their Declared Principles.

The Managers in this fell upon the Whiggs, just as the Confederates do upon the King of *France*, (*viz.*) not to Dethrone him as King, not to Dissolve his Dominions from their settled posture as a Kingdom, not to pull him to pieces and to share his Possessions among themselves; but to reduce him to Bounds and Limitations, to pull down his Exorbitant Greatness, and the Usurpt Dominion over his Neighbour's Right, to gain Security for his being a quiet Neighbour, and in short to fix the Ballance of Power upon Due Equality, for the Settling and Preserving the Peace of *Europe*.

Thus in treating the Whiggs, tho' with Rudeness and Rabble, with Noise and Clamour, and perhaps with some Injustice in some Cases; yet this was never with a View of Deposing the Being or Name of the Whiggs as a Party, Dissolving their Privileges as Subjects, and pushing them into Confusion: The thing was only to reduce their Power, and take from them the Seat of Government, Deposing what they call'd the Exorbitance of the Party, and taking from them the Power to oppress other People.

This was plain from the proceedings of the Managers when they had obtain'd their victory over the Whigg Ministry ; for they no sooner got the Power of the Administration out of the hands of the Whiggs, but they turn'd Whiggs themselves, making very little alteration of Method, only an alteration of Persons in Executing : *For Example*, They no sooner came to Administer the Publick Affairs, but they kept on foot the same Alliances, engag'd in the same War, resolved upon the same foot of Peace without abatements, made the same Capitulations, paid the same Subsidies, declared their Resolution to stand to the same Succession of the Crown, allow'd to the Dissenters the same Tolleration, Raised Money by the same Methods, and Lay'd Taxes and Funds of the same kind as the Old Ministry had done before them.

Nay even in the Manner of Carrying on the War, and the Persons entrusted with it, They made little or no alteration, tho' at first, to please their new Auxiliaries, *the Tories*, they were said to make some Jingle with New Words and New Notions, such as removing the Generals, Removing the Seat of the War, Drawing away the Greatest Body

Body of the Troops from *Flanders*, and carrying on the War **ESPECIALLY** in *Spain*.

But this was but a Feint, an artificial Wind, made to blow like a Storm for as long and no longer, as it serv'd the uses it was contriv'd for, and then like a Summer Breeze which ceases with the Setting of the Sun, it went off; the Morning Clear'd up, and all things went on as they were before : The General, the Army, the Seat of the War remain'd all as they were before, and rather receiv'd an Addition than a Diminution, either the first in Power, or the second in Number of Forces, and all things return'd just to the same Method of proceedings as they did before.

It is true, and nothing was Clearer from the Nature of the thing, than that this was absolutely necessary to be so, and could be no otherwise, and every Man whose Eyes were open saw it before ; but our High-flyers, as it often happens with Men of too much Fire in their Politicks, continuing most conveniently blind, put their hands most cheerfully to the assistance of the New Managers, upon the weakness and presumption of their own Designs being to be put in Execution, as the Consequence of this Alteration.

Nor

Nor were they the only *Dupes* of the Age neither, for the concealed Jacobites among them, more stupidly blind than the rest, were so Infatuated as to think that certainly the New Managers were at bottom Friends to their Cause, and that they had a View at the Restoration of the Pretender. This went such a ridiculous length, that it was wonderful to see how effectual it was to bring those poor *Out-of-fashion-People* to discover themselves, several of them in the North part of *Britain* took the Oaths that had never taken them before ; and when they Chose Members of Parliament, Declar'd those Members had nothing to do but to Give their honest Vote for the Restoration of their Sovereign ; That it should now be done in a Parliamentary way ; That Legal Authority should Joyn in it ; That the Ministry were to Joyn in it ; And in short, flatter'd themselves with all the absurd and ridiculous Notions that poor Lunatics are wont to do, who fancy themselves to be Emperors and Monarchs, that they have their Guards, and their numerous Attendants round them, and are every way Equip'd like a Sovereign Prince ; when their Ornaments are but real Chains, their Guards the Spectators
 pitying

pitying their Disorder, and their Glorious Pallace the unhappy Cell of an Hospital, or Mad-house : *Qui Jupiter vult Perdere hos Dementat.*

Nay so far were these People led on in their State Frenzy, that they perswaded themselves to believe, that the Queen was to Joyn in the senseless and unnatural attempt ; That Her Majesty had been Convinc'd that the Possession was not her Due, and being Touch'd in Conscience at the Injury done Her Brother, would remit the Crown, Come into the House, and make a voluntary Resignation in Favour of the Pretender ; Contenting her self with an Honourable Appannage or Maintenance suitable to Her Birth, and then the Revolution was to be brought about quietly and without Blood by Consent of Parties.

Let no Man wonder, that where Mens Folly were run up to such an Extravagant height, the Disappointment of all these Glorious Gewgaws, leaves behind it a more than ordinary Chagrin and Discontent ; and they that were Whimsy Mad before, turn Melancholly Mad now.

Some have excused them by saying, the first Steps of the New Managers were so Extravagant, and look'd

look'd so apparently this way, that it was no wonder to find Men, whose Desires lay all to that point, fall into such a Delusion; and that many Honest Men, who apprehended the coming in of the Pretender as the Greatest Evil, were Drawn in as far by their Fears, as those were by their Hopes, verily believing, that the true Design of all this was aim'd at a New Revolution, and that the New Party were all in a strict League with the Pretender, since they thought that either the Design was to bring us all to a *French* Management, or that really the New Managers were Blind and Mad.

But when they saw the Wheel within the Wheel; when they saw the Scheme Work, and that the Engineers of the State Gradually and Wisely dropt all their first appearances, and acted upon the same Revolution Foundation that others had done before them, all those Fears vanish'd at once.

As this discovery eased the minds of one side, and shew'd them that their Case was not so Desperate as they Imagin'd; that we were not all running into Toryisme, and King *James's* days back again; so it had just the contrary effect upon the other Party, who found

found by degrees that they were really Deluded, that they had been cutting the Throat of their own Cause all this while, and that as soon as the New Measures were Establish'd, and the Wheel would move without them, they should be turn'd off, be slighted and neglected, and become the same despicable poor Wretches they were before.

Yet did not this Discovery come all at once on either side, their Illuminations came slowly on; some wiser than some was the state of the World from the beginning of it, and will be so to the end: Among the Whiggs some saw into the Politicks of the New Managers early, and finding that the whole Scheme amounted only to putting out and putting in, that the Management would be the same, that it must be so of necessity, and that they could act upon no other foot but that of the Revolution; these grew easie sooner than their Neighbours, and assisted to make others so; whereas some harder to be satisfied, cannot yet persuade themselves to believe but the Design is still to Ruin our Constitution, Dethrone the Queen, Set up *France*, and Bring in the Pretender.

On the other hand, among the High Gentlemen some see into things and cry out they are betray'd, that the New Ministry had Trick'd them, that they have only Chang'd the Men but not the Measures: That there has nothing been done for the Security of the Church: That the mismanagements of the old Ministry are not enquir'd into: That the Treasurer is not Impeach'd: That *Ma...bro*' is still Entrusted with the Army, that the War is to be carried on still as it was before, and ESPECIALLY in *Flanders*, not ESPECIALLY in *Spain*: That the Tolleration of Dissenters contrary to Agreement is Continued, and they called in publick *Fellow Christians*, whom they always were made believe should be esteemed worse than Papists: That Money is Raised by Funds and Loans as it was before, tho' that way was Condemn'd as fatal to the Nation, and Entailing an Eternal Debt upon us that can never be paid: That the Whiggs have been Courted to uphold Credit, and the Bank Treated with by Parliament tho' they were told it should be Dissolv'd, and the Landed Men made the Fund of the Nations Credit.

It is agreed that some are still under the old Delusion, and either go on hoodwink'd by the Artifice of their first Deluders; or are brought over to see that they were in the wrong to push at those things in that Manner they did, and that moderate steps are the only Methods to bring their Designs happily to pass; that Time and Patience only can effect things, and that to wait is the only way to obtain their ends.

However as the Clamouring Party generally obtains more Profelytes, so the first of these grow most Numerous because they make most Noise.

It is but lately indeed that their Clamours have been made publick, tho' for some time they have made their Complaints to one another: The first that I find any Account of in the Modern Antiquities of this New turn of Affairs, was in Sir *Robert Dandylion's* Choice Manual, Entitled, *Loyal Table Talk*, where we have an Account of a Conference between two Country Gentlemen upon these State matters; There was *Tom of Suffolk*, an ancient Knight of great Renown for Zeal, but not according to Knowledge; and *Jack of Worcestershire*, a younger Man, but an older F——l, both staunch true

blue Bigots to *Toryisme* and the *Danger of the Church*.

These met together, and beginning to talk freely, whether warm'd with Zeal or the Bottle, the Author has not thought fit to acquaint us, But they took this weighty Question into Consideration (*viz.*) How they should do to settle the Nation.

Sir *Thomas* begins the Dialogue thus: *Jack*, What do you think of our Affairs, how do you like things? Prithee tell me your Opinion.

Sir *John*. Truly I do not like things at-all, I think we are like to be Bubbled by our new Mi · · · ry, and I shall be glad you'll let us talk a little freely about it.

Sir *Tho*. With all my Heart: I have waited for an opportunity to do it a great while; for I am under great uneasiness about it.

Sir *John*. You know Sir *Thomas*, when you and I were sent for to a secret Committee of Honest Gentlemen, how Warm, how Zealous, how much Concern they shew'd for the *Danger of the Church*— How Earnestly they solicited us to come in and Joyn with them to rescue the Church out of the Hands of a Party, who had Poison'd even the Right Reverend and Reverend Guide

of the Church with Principles of Faction and Whiggisme; and had even Dosed the very Government it self into a stupid Lethargic humour of sitting still and seeing our Holy Church cast into Contempt, her Clergy become the reproach of the Street, and her Worship be ridicul'd by Innumerable swarms of Heresy, Faction and Schismatick Principles.

Sir *Tho.* I remember it very well.

Sir *John.* How did they represent to us, that the original of all these mischiefs lay in the mismanagement of the Ministry, who, to engratiate themselves with the *Whiggs*, had given up all Concern for the Church, perswading the World of her safety and flourishing Circumstances: That this was necessary to carry on their other Designs which the Whiggish Party upheld them in, and that therefore to rescue the Church from the Danger, it was absolutely necessary to give a Turn to the Party, and to bring Affairs into a new Management.

Sir *Tho.* I remember it all, and the mighty good Words they gave us, to perswade us to joyn our Interest with them, to bring about such a desirable Revolution, and to Rescue the Queen,
the

the Church, and the Administration, out of the hands of the Whiggs.

Sir *John*. How did they promise us upon this, That they wou'd set up the Queen upon Her Majesty's only Glorious and Firm Foundation or Title, (*viz.*) That of *Hereditary Right*, and thereby Recognize and Acknowledge the Ancient and Profess'd Principle of the Church of *England*, and of every true Son of that Church (*viz.*) the Doctrines of *Passive Obedience* and *Non-Resistance*.

Sir *Tho*. Very true.

Sir *John*. And upon these Capitulations we came over to them, put ourselves into their hands, joyn'd our Interest with theirs, and brought up Addresses from every part of the Nation to concur with it, and thereby, as far as in us lay, to perswade Her Majesty and the World, that this was the security of the Nation.

Sir *Tho*. Ay, and to go a length no Country Party ever went before (*viz.*) to Address her Majesty almost in so many Words to Dissolve the Parliament; without which, I believe the Court at that time of day had never come in to take such a step, which if we had not universally joyn'd in, must have gone a great way to have
Ruin'd

Ruin'd the Confederacy, and hazard-
ed the whole Affairs of *Europe*.

Sir *John*. All these things are so plain, and so lately done, none can forget them.

Sir *Tho*. In Consequence of these Measures we Joyn'd all our Interest, and by the Conduct of the Inferiour Clergy, animated by the Success of Dr. *Sacheverell*, we Rais'd our Party, push'd them upon all sorts of Violences, taught them to Insult the Whiggs, and to Rise in Mobs and Tumults upon the Dissenters almost all over the Kingdom ; by which means we Bullied them out of their Elections in many Places, indeed in most parts of the Nation, and got Honest Gentlemen of our own Friends Return'd from all sides, and have now got such, so Loyal, so Zealous, so True a Church of *England* Parliament, as has not sat in those Walls for these many Ages.

Sir *John*. And who could have thought, that after having serv'd them thus Zealously and Faithfull, and that after by their own acknowledgment, they could never have done their Business without us ; we could be denied any thing in reason, much less any thing for the real good of the Church ; least of all any thing that had
been

been expressly Agreed upon and Capitulated for by us.

Sir *Tho.* But I find those things all forgotten.

Sir *John.* As if they had never been talk'd of.

Sir *Tho.* And we grow neglected and slighted.

Sir *John.* As if we had never been useful.

Sir *Tho.* Or as if they had never stood in need of our Assistance.

Sir *John.* What one step have they taken to declare Her Majesty's Hereditary Right to the Crown, against the Commonwealth Principles that have Debauched our People?

Sir *Tho.* Or have they once mov'd in Parliament to Establish the Known and Essential Principle of *Non-Resistance*, which our Church has profess'd upon all occasions, and which is so much the safety of the Crown, against all the Disloyal and Fanatick Notions of the Original Right of the People?

Sir *John.* What have they done for the Churches Security, or to let us see that we shall ever be able to say her Dangers are lessen'd?

Sir *Tho.* What have they done to lessen the Power of the Schismatics and Dissenters?

Sir John. Or have they not rather strengthened their hands, by giving to that abhorr'd Generation of Rebels, *the Presbyterians*, whom we look upon to be worse than *Papists*, the Titles of *Protestants* and FELLOW CHRISTIANS.

Sir Tho. My blood rises at these double-tongu'd proceedings, and I cannot but think we are betray'd; that we are all running back into Whiggisme and the Junto; for my part I can see nothing in it, no material Change.

Sir John. Nor I neither: We only see new Faces, not one new step, at least of the Kind we ought to have seen, and had reason to expect.

Sir Tho. I could go on with Complaints of this sort to the end of the Chapter, and observe to you how we are Cheated in the Affairs of the State, Management of the War, Modelling of the Court, the Affair of the Fleet, the Credit, the Bank, the Funds, and above all of the War: But I adjourn it, I have a Project in my Head how to bring this Matter into a more regular method of Enquiry, and perhaps put it in some way also of redress if you will concur with it.

Sir John. With all my heart, pray let's have your thoughts upon it: Let's

hear your Project, for I have not been without a great Concern on this account.

Sir Tho. It must indeed have the Concurrence of some of our Friends.

Sir John. It shall not want mine, nor all the Interest and Friends I can procure, and I am not alone in the World.

Sir Tho. Why my Design is to Concert our Grievances with all our Friends within Doors and without, and if possible, to make them sensible how both they and we are treated in this Case; and I am perswaded, if we are but unanimous, we are able to give a Check to this new Party still.

Sir John. I like your Project wonderfully — At least we shall let them see they do not yet stand so safe, as to have no need of their old Auxiliaries.

Sir Tho. If they do, we will endeavour to make our Complaint more Popular; Who knows but the same Mobb that brought our Cause in, may fright them out of their Seats, as it has done the Whiggs; and let them see that as we set them up, we can pull them down, and they are able to carry nothing without us?

Sir John. I think it is an admirable method: But which way will you go about

about it? We must have a few trusty Friends let into the Secret.

Sir *Tho.* That's the very thing I intended to propose; Can you think of proper People?

Sir *John.* I believe I can bring you two or three that may be depended upon.

Sir *Tho.* I'll answer for about Four.

Sir *John.* They will be enough at first, perhaps more may drop in, or they will be able to recommend more themselves.

Sir *Tho.* When shall we meet?

Sir *John.* When you please, the sooner the better; for there is no time to be lost.

Sir *Tho.* To Morrow in the Evening: Name the Place.

Sir *John.* The Vine; do you name the Hour.

Sir *Tho.* Five: Bring your Friends with you.

Sir *John.* We must have a Number to leave at the Bar.

Sir *Tho.* Think of one.

Sir *John.* I have no Invention, I hate Numbers; I remember a Clubb left Ten Thousand at the Bar in the late Times, and they were Charg'd with a Plot.

Sir *Tho.* I remember our old Fox-hunting Clubb had a Word by which we always met.

Sir *John.* What was that?

Sir *Tho.* *October*; for in that Month we always met for the first time.

Sir *John.* With all my heart; it has been a happy Month to my Family on many accounts.

Sir *Tho.* Then *October* is the Word, to Morrow at Five.

And so they parted for the first time.

P A R T III.

YOU have had now a brief History of the Original and Occasion of this Wise Assembly, and how they came by the Name, *The October Clubb*: We shall make here but a very small Digression, and proceed to let you into some of their most Accurate and Political Debates.

The Digression I shall make, is only to remark how they lay'd their Design here of bringing with them each some of their Friends out of the Parliament House, Members of the present House of Commons: How it came to pass that they failed mutually in that part of their Design Authors have not left upon Record; But this is certain, that this Disappointment did not at all Discourage the two Knights from going on with their Design, (*viz.*) of propagating a Discontented Society, which they soon effected to their full Content.

It was not long after the resolutions our two Knights took at parting, before they met according to appointment

ment with their Assistants: At which meeting their Grievances were at Large settled and lay'd down in Heads of Resolutions, such as these:

I. Resolv'd, That having faithfully Joyn'd in with the New Party, both in their Councils and Assistance, for the overthrow of the late Ministry, and setting on foot new Schemes of Management; they found the said New Party were not true to their Pretensions: But that the Work being done for which their assistance it seems was wanted, they found the New Party began to drop them, and to proceed upon the same Model of Management, that they pretended to complain of before.

II. Resolved, That the New Managers were in a Plot, to throw entirely off those who had thus faithfully assisted them, made their Court to the Whiggs on pretences of Moderation, Carrying on the War, Raising Credit, and the like; and that if some speedy Course was not taken, High Churchmen would be soon as much out of Fashion as ever.

III. Resolved, That the several Capitulations, on the Conditions of which they the High Gentlemen had assisted

both

both with their Councils and Clamour, were not at all regarded. For Example,

1. The War was not brought to an end, or the Treaty of Peace renewed with *France*, by which it might have been proved as they had alledged, That the Old Ministry continued it only to preserve their Superiority in the Administration.

2. The D . . . of M . . . b was not Disbanded, and the D of A le put into the Command of the Army, whereby it might be made appear, that not penetrating into the heart of *France*, was an Omission with Design to perpetuate the War.

3. The War however pretended, and after Voted to be carried on ESPECIALLY in *Spain*, is just directed as it was before; None of the old Troops, or but very few, brought over from *Flanders*; on the contrary more Shipped over thither from hence, and the War in *Spain* carried on by new Troops and Imperialists as it was before, to the utter Disappointment of our Friends at *St. Germans*.

4. Nothing had in the least been Voted as to the Succession, or the Queen's Declaring in favour of the Exiled (Pretender)

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5. The Four Impeachments promised to be brought against the Whigg Ministry, such as the D of M h, the Lord Tr r, the Earls of W and S d was no more Discours'd of, but dropt in a feint, and they were put off with a Commission to State and Take the Publick Accounts.

6. The Taxes were Lay'd, and Money Rais'd by Funds and Loans just as before, notwithstanding former pretences of Entailing Debts on the Nation.

7. The Whiggs were Courted to Raise Credit, the Whiggs Voted, and were joyn'd in those Votes for Raising Taxes, for Funds, and Borrowing Money by Loan; Whiggs were suffer'd to Lend Money upon the said Funds, and Encourag'd to Raise Credit upon promises of Moderation and Temper in Management.

8. Whiggish Funds were Voted to be made Good, and the Exorbitant Debts Contracted by Whiggish Management all to be paid, which it was agreed should all be wiped off with a Parliament SPUNGE, whereby all former Funds being re-assum'd, the Nation might have Carried on the War for Twenty year, if there had been

been occasion, without any more Taxes.

9. Tolleration and Exemption from Penal Laws continu'd to Dissenters; and that Factious Crew declared, even by Parliament, to be *Fellow Christians* with the true Sons of the Church of *England*; whereas we had agreed to Dissolve and Overthrow the pretended Tolleration, and to Extinguish the abhorr'd Name of Schismatick from the Nation, by *The shortest Way with the Dissenters*.

10. All the promised Measures for removing the Danger of the Church forgotten; and all the Methods for taking away the Fears and Jealousies of her Zealous Clergy, which arise from the Uniting with Presbyterians, and establishing a Rebel Church in the North part of *Britain*, neglected.

11. The solemn Recognition of the Doctrines of *Passive Obedience* and *Non-resistance*, which was agreed to be proposed to all Her Majesty's Subjects, as a new Test of Admittance into Offices and Trusts, either in Parliament, Church, or State, forgotten; and no more heard of about them.

12. The Hereditary Right of the Crown of *Great-Britain* not asserted,

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in opposition to the Trayterous position of Parliamentary Limitation.

These Resolutions being Examined and Approv'd, the Measures for Redressing these Grievances came next into Consideration, which were, after mature Deliberation, and many Debates and Meetings; Resolved into such as these:

1. That all the Clamour, Noise, and Raillery, which they had formerly raised against the Whiggs and Dissenters should cease, for a while; and to employ that useful Talent; without which the very being and nature of the Cause would sink and be forgotten in the World, the whole Stream, with all the Sluces and Flood-gates thereof should be turn'd down, open'd, and let fly at the New Ministry, and the Managers under them.

2. That upon all Occasions, they should endeavour to make their just Complaints as popular as possible and principally on account of the Great Neglect of the promised Zeal for the Church, which instead of giving her ease from Schisme and Faction is like to be fobb'd off with Building
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a few Churches, and Repairing her Liturgy, things they could willingly have parted with, for but one Vote against Tolleration and Exemption.

3. That *Anthony Marquis de Guiscard* should in all their Writings and Discourses be Damn'd for a Poultrone and a Scoundrel, not for Assassinating or Stabbing Mr. *Harley*, but for doing it by halves, and Stabbing him in the wrong place, since they have determin'd in all their Assemblies and Debates, *Nemine Contradicente*, That he has been the only, or most material obstacle to all the true measures of High Church, and the great Cause of all their Grievances aforesaid, and that he has their constant ill-will, Back- blessings, and Anathema's accordingly.

4. That they should endeavour to bring as many of their Friends to this new Society as is possible; who should be all Engag'd upon Parole of Honour to pursue the just measures of the whole, in order to obtain a redress of all the Grievances aforesaid.

5. That of these Friends and Assistants, they should forthwith apply themselves with all their Interest, to IF POSSIBLE, some of the Members of the H . . . of C

to their Society, and as many as they could of the Dignified Clergy ; as to the Inferiour Clergy, one of the Society stood up and acquainted them, that he was empower'd from Dr. *Sacherell* to assure them, That both he and all his Disciples of the Inferiour Priests and Deacons, were with them heart and hand, and he immediately produc'd his Commission from the Doctor for his Credentials.

6. Lastly, That some Honourable Name should be consider'd of for their Meeting, in order to perpetuate their Endeavours, and Record both it and their Persons to Posterity, *in Perpetuam rei Memoriam.*

It fell out unhappily, that while the Society were deliberating upon the Eternizing their Memory in History, and to that end giving themselves a Name; a Gentleman of Quality comes into the Tavern, and coming up to the Bar, enquires for the Assembly by the word OCTOBER; accordingly the Master of the House sends the Drawer up Stairs with the Gentleman to shew him the Room. The Drawer goes up to the first space in the Stairs when seeing another Drawer at the

top of the Stairs, he stopt; and calling up to the other Drawer, *Will*, says he, shew the Gentleman to the Club. What Club says *Will*? D — ye, the Fellow's a Fool, says the t'other, the *October* Club: So he carries him in.

In the very moment this happen'd, Sir *Thomas* — sends his Footman to the Tavern, to see if the Company was met; *Jack*, says Sir *Thomas*, Go to the *Bell* and enquire if the Gentlemen of the Club are come? If they don't understand you by that, give them the word, OCTOBER. *Jack*, a blundering West-country Booby comes up to the Bar decently enough, but asking once or twice, and the People being busy, and not minding him, he stood like a Mute a while; a Drawer by that time being a little at leisure, took notice of him, *Who do you look for*, says the Drawer? THE OCTOBER CLUBB, says the Innocent Clown, bawling it aloud. Up two pair of Stairs in the Great Room, says the Drawer, and up Stairs goes the Footman.

As the D — I would have it, who was certainly their G — d father, Three Gentlemen comes in at the very
mo-

moment to ask for *October*, and they hears the Boy enquire as before, and up Stairs they go with him.

Just as they were come in, the Society were in Debate as above for some Honourable Designation to bestow on themselves to Eternise the memory of their Assembly, when the first Gentleman stands up, and Addressing himself merrily to Esq; *H* — the Chairman for the time being; Mr. Chairman, says he, I think we may save our selves the trouble of this Debate, for if I mistake not our Society is Christned already, and so tells them his story of the two Drawers. While he is speaking, Sir *William* — being one of the three Gentlemen abovesaid, stands up, says he, I felicitate you all upon your new Title of Honour, Gentlemen, and so tells his story of Sir *Thomas's* Footman.

Several in the Society took offence at it, and moved that the Master of the House might be spoken to, that care might be taken of it; but it was got among the Drawers, and from thence it went among the Footmen, and it was to no more purpose to go about to stop it then, than my Lord *Haver-*
sham's

sham's Thumb to the Tide at Graves-
end.

Thus much for the Original of the Name.

We thought to have given you a brief Historical Account here of the diligent Endeavours of the Members of this Club, *for so we are now to call them*, to Grace their Assembly with the Attendance of some of our Nations Representatives: But they having met with a great Mortification on that Head, not being able, according to their Desire and Expectations, to bring any of that Body to Joyn with them, no, not one; and the Design of this being only to speak to the Honour and Advantage of the Society, we are unwilling to leave upon Record any thing so much to their Disadvantage and Discouragement.

The History of the many bright Ornaments of the Church who came daily over to them, and of the Increase of their Number from two Originals, recited to near One Hundred and Eighty MEMBERS; the constant Flux of Assistants from the *Neither House* of Con—ation, the farther proceedings of the Diligent Emissaries they

they employ'd, and the like, these may afford a large Field of most useful History, and which in time may be made more publick for the Information of the Age, and the Caution of Posterity.

At present we shall only acquaint you, that in pursuance of the five Propositions mentioned above, the Gentlemen applied themselves with Great Diligence, and some say, with unexpected Success, to propagate the Cause they were Embark'd in, (*viz.*) to Erect a new Faction of Malecontents among us, the Nation not being Divided enough before; and upon all occasions to go about Murmuring, Complaining, and raising Jealousies among the People, against the Queen and her new Administration :

For still omitting needful Security to the Church, which remains in the same Danger as before.

For Encouraging the Factious and Evil principled Dissenters.

For Declining the Advantages of a Hereditary Claim to the Crown.

For Carrying on the War with the same fury as formerly.

For setting up for a Moderate management of Affairs.

And the like.

It happen'd one day, in the prosecution of these Affairs, three Gentlemen were Introduc'd to their Society, whose Faces were not well known ; on a suddain a certain Damp spread upon the Countenances of the rest, and they began to look upon one another ; the Business of the Society seem'd to stop, and the Gentlemen all in little Committees, of two, three, five, seven, and the like, talking upon private matters, till Sir *M*—— standing up mov'd the Chairman to call to the order of the Society, which was done, and somebody mentioning the bringing in of three Strangers, *G*—— *L*—— *C*—— stood up and answer'd for them, That they were three Honest Gentlemen of *North-Britain*, and all of his acquaintance : upon which all were satisfi'd and fell to Business again.

However this occasion'd a New Debate, started by Sir *H*—— *M*——, a worthy Member of the Society, of what sort of People they shou'd Admit or Exclude from their Society.

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The previous Question took up some time, and occasion'd several very Learned Speeches, (*viz.*) Whether they should Exclude any kind of People or no? But this was carried in the affirmative for many Reasons; especially this, That tho' their Grievances were to be made as popular, and the Reasons of their Discontents as publick as possible, yet the Measures they were to take for the bringing it to pass, and the Persons and Engines they might employ, as well as their own Persons, it would be necessary should be concealed as much as possible.

This being Resolv'd, the next thing to be Consider'd was, What sort of People were to be Admitted, or Excluded; in which their Debates were very remarkable on many Accounts and we shall give you an Abstract of some of them, tho' the Learned Speeches made on this occasion, by Sir P——, Sir H——, Sir M—— and others, are, for want of room in this Tract, purposely omitted, things otherwise worthy of Eternal Remembrance especially as coming from Men known never to have spoken Sense before

and therefore certainly speaking by supernatural Inspiration now: A most sublime Testimony to the Goodness of their Cause, and a Token of the Great Success they expect to attend them.

The first proposal was about a *Whigg*; The Word was no sooner nam'd, but an universal Hiss beginning among the Clergy at the upper end of the Room, spread it self throughout the whole Company: There was a Wiser Man than most among them, who Mov'd the Affirmative; he told them there were some High-flyers among the Whiggs, and as all Hot Principles was useful to their Designs, he thought it was a good piece of Policy to receive such, as Tools for their Work.

But it was answer'd those Tools might be made use of at second hand, and without doors, and so he was over-rul'd, and all manner of Whiggs, old Whiggs, or Modern Whiggs were Excluded, only with a reserve for my Lord — *Haversham's* Ghost, if he thought fit to appear, *W* — *P* —, and Mr. *R* —, my Lord . . . *R* —
M 2 W —,

W——, and the D—— of A——, three Scots Presbyterians, and two Quakers.

It was long indeed before those could be allow'd, but at last a Learned Distinction was accepted in their Favour, (*viz.*) That they were all Friends to the Pretender: So they were admitted as *Jacobites*, not as *Whiggs*, no Favour being allow'd to the latter upon any Terms whatever.

It was next Debated, whether *Papists* should be admitted into their Society, and it was carried for a permission, after much Debate, with this Restriction: “ *Provided, Nevertheless,*
 “ *and it is hereby Enacted by the Authority*
 “ *aforsaid, That no Papist be ad-*
 “ *mitted into this Society who has above*
 “ *300 s. a year Estate in Land within*
 “ *this Kingdom.* It may be matter of Speculation why such an Exception to this should be made: But the Case was very plain, for it was alledg'd, That the *Papists* of greater Estates, tho' they were willing enough to have the Revolution of this Nation unravel'd, and the Royal Line, as the

call it, restor'd; yet they see so much improbability in the Success, and how they are so certain to be ruin'd in the attempt by these sort of Men, that generally speaking, they are inclin'd to sit still and be quiet, till they have some surer Game to play; and therefore least these *Wiser-Papists* should make some prudent, moderate steps, to the prejudice of the High-flying hairbrain'd Principles, and so prevent their ruining themselves, which they are resolv'd upon in spite of Common Sense; for this reason they Excluded such, at the same time Admitting all the *Guiscardins*, *French-Spies*, *Desperadoes* and *Mad-men*, as well *Papists* as others.

We should here have descended to the affirmative of the Debate, and given you some Distinguishing Characters of the sorts they have agreed to admit, and the manner of their admission: But this, together with the Characters of the Persons, we are obliged, for want of room, to adjourn to the farther History of their Proceedings, which is preparing to be made publick; in which Account, their Principles, Politicks and Persons, may

may have justice done them more at large.

Mean time we hope these Historical and Authentick Memoirs of their Original may be to the satisfaction of the Reader, and may be allow'd to have answer'd its Title, (*viz.*) *The Secret History of the October Clubb.*

We thought also to have given you a New Poem to the Honour and Glory of the Society, a true Original, by a Member of the Clubb: But we are oblig'd to reserve it for a farther opportunity.

FINIS.

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Bishop

Bishop of *Salisbury*, Earl of *W——n*, Lord
Haversham, Lord *Cuts*, Lord *P——gh*, Lord
M——n, Sir *Charles Hedges*, Mr. *Boyle*,
Sir *John Packington*, Mr. *Bromly*, &c. As
also the Arguments made use of at the several
Conferences held, on that Account, by
a select Committee of Lords and Commons.
To which is added, Reasons for bringing in
such a useful Bill, as this must be to the
Church and Kingdom, this present Session of
Parliament: Deduc'd from the Practice of
our Fellow Subjects the *Scots*, who will not
tolerate *Episcopacy* in *North-Britain*: With
Copy of the *Scotch* Episcopal Clergy's Letter
to Her Majesty on that Subject: One from
the Queen to the Privy-Council of the
Kingdom; Sir *Alexander Bruce*'s Speech in
Parliament against *Presbytery*: The Censure
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